

## 2. Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. *(Withdrawn)* A method of treating cardiovascular disease in a subject having cardiovascular disease, the method comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an antagonist, wherein the antagonist is selected from the group consisting of an IL-17 antagonist, IL-18 antagonist, 4-1BB antagonist, CD30 antagonist and an OX40 antagonist.
2. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 1, wherein the IL-17 antagonist is a soluble IL-17 receptor.
3. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 2, wherein the soluble IL-17 receptor is a fusion protein.
4. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 1, wherein the IL-17 antagonist is an antibody.
5. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 4, wherein the antibody specifically binds the IL-17 receptor.
6. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 4, wherein the antibody specifically binds IL-17.
7. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 4, wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.
8. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 4, wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.
9. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 1, wherein the IL-17 antagonist is administered one or more times per week.
10. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 1, wherein the IL-17 antagonist is administered by subcutaneous injection.
11. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 1, wherein the IL-17 antagonist is administered in combination with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs; analgesics; systemic steroids; antagonists of inflammatory cytokines; anti-inflammatory cytokines; chemotherapeutics; lipid-

lowering drugs; blood pressure-regulating drugs; angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and/or peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor ligands.

12. *(Withdrawn)* A method of treating cardiovascular disease in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a 4-1BB antagonist.
13. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 12, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a soluble 4-1BB Ligand protein.
14. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 13, wherein the soluble 4-1BB Ligand is an Fc fusion protein.
15. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 12, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a 4-1BB-specific antibody.
16. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 15, wherein the antibody specifically binds the extracellular domain of 4-1BB Ligand.
17. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 15, wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.
18. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 15, wherein the antibody is a human antibody.
19. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 15, wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.
20. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 12, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered by subcutaneous injection.
21. *(Withdrawn)* The method of Claim 12, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered in combination with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs; analgesics; systemic steroids; antagonists of inflammatory cytokines; anti-inflammatory cytokines; chemotherapeutics; lipid-lowering drugs; blood pressure-regulating drugs; angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors and/or peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor ligands.

22. *(Withdrawn)* A method for preventing, reducing and/or ameliorating the cardiotoxic side effects of one or more chemotherapeutics in subjects receiving said chemotherapeutics, comprising administering a 4-1BB antagonist to the subject.
23. *(Withdrawn)* The method according to Claim 22, wherein the chemotherapeutic is an anthracycline.
24. *(Withdrawn)* The method according to Claim 23, wherein the anthracycline is selected from the group consisting of Doxorubicin, Daunorubicin, Epirubicin, Idarubicin and Mitroxantrone.
25. *(Withdrawn)* The method according to Claim 22, comprising administering a 4-1BB antagonist prior to, concurrent with and/or subsequent to the one or more anthracyclines.
26. *(Withdrawn)* The method according to Claim 22, wherein the one or more cardiotoxic side effects is/are selected from the group consisting of arrhythmias, myocarditis, pericarditis, myocardial infarction and cardiomyopathy.
27. *(Withdrawn)* A method for treating cancer in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering one or more anthracyclines in combination with a 4-1BB antagonist, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered prior to, concurrent with and/or subsequent to the anthracyclines.
28. *(Withdrawn)* The method according to Claim 27, wherein the dosage of the anthracycline is increased to more effectively treat the cancer but the cardiotoxic side effects of the anthracycline is prevented, reduced and/or ameliorated by administering a 4-1BB antagonist.
29. *(Withdrawn)* A method for reducing or preventing apoptosis in cardiac tissue comprising administering a 4-1BB antagonist.
30. *(Withdrawn)* A method for improving cardiac function in subjects having anthracycline-induced cardiac deficiency comprising administering a 4-1BB antagonist prior to, concurrent with and/or subsequent to the anthracycline.
31. *(New)* A method of treating a cardiovascular disease in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a 4-1BB antagonist, wherein the cardiovascular disease is selected from the group consisting

of chronic heart failure, post-pump syndrome, ischemia/reperfusion injury, non-ischemic systemic hypertension, arrhythmogenic valvular disease, ischemic valvular disease, atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis, peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease, stroke, transient ischemic attack, myocardial infarction, aneurysm, arteritis, angina, embolism, platelet-associated ischemic disorders, restenosis, mitral and/or tricuspid regurgitation, mitral stenosis, silent myocardial ischemia, Raynaud's phenomena, thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, thrombotic microangiopathies, vasculitis, veno-occlusive disease, giant cell arteritis, Wegener's granulomatosis, Schoenlein-Henoch purpura, and cardiovascular disease arising from a bacterial periodontal infection.

32. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is selected from the group consisting of: a soluble 4-1BB; an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L; and an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.
33. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a soluble 4-1BB, and further wherein the soluble 4-1BB is an Fc fusion protein.
34. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L or an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.
35. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
36. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the antibody is a human antibody.
37. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.
38. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the cardiovascular disease is chronic heart failure.
39. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the cardiovascular disease is myocardial infarction.
40. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.

41. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.
42. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered intravenously or by subcutaneous injection.
43. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered in combination with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory cytokines; chemotherapeutics; lipid-lowering drugs; blood pressure-regulating drugs; angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors; antibiotics; corticosteroids; and peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor ligands.
44. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the 4-1BB antagonist is an amount sufficient to induce a reduction in ischemic cardiomyopathy in the subject.
45. (New) A method of treating a subject suffering from chronic heart failure comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a 4-1BB-L antagonist comprising an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of a human antibody and a humanized monoclonal antibody.
46. (New) A method for reducing chronic cardiotoxicity caused by a chemotherapeutic agent in a subject who has received the chemotherapeutic agent, comprising administering to the subject a 4-1BB antagonist in an amount sufficient to reduce the cardiotoxicity.
47. (New) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the cardiotoxicity is selected from the group consisting of arrhythmia, myocarditis, pericarditis, myocardial infarction and cardiomyopathy.
48. (New) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is an anthracycline drug that is selected from the group consisting of doxorubicin, daunorubicin, epirubicin, idarubicin and mitroxantrone.
49. (New) The method according to Claim 48, wherein the anthracycline drug is doxorubicin.
50. (New) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is selected from the group consisting of a soluble 4-1BB protein, an antibody that specifically

binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L and an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

51. *(New)* The method of Claim 50, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is soluble 4-1BB, and further wherein said soluble 4-1BB is an Fc fusion protein.
52. *(New)* The method of Claim 46, wherein the subject is a cancer patient.
53. *(New)* The method of Claim 46, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of amsacrine, busulfan, cisplatin, cyclophosphamide, fluorouracil, Herceptin®, ifosfamide, an interferon, interleukin-2, mitomycin, paclitaxel, vinblastine, vincristine and capecitabine.
54. *(New)* The method of Claim 46, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the 4-1BB antagonist is an amount sufficient to reduce apoptosis in cardiac tissue of the subject.
55. *(New)* A method for reducing chronic cardiotoxicity caused by an anthracycline drug in a patient who has received the anthracycline drug, comprising administering to said patient a human antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L in an amount sufficient to reduce the cardiotoxicity.
56. *(New)* A method for treating cancer in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject an anthracycline drug in combination with a 4-1BB antagonist, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered in an amount sufficient to reduce a cardiotoxic side effect of the anthracycline drug.
57. *(New)* The method according to Claim 56, wherein the anthracycline drug is selected from the group consisting of doxorubicin, daunorubicin, epirubicin, idarubicin and mitroxastrone.
58. *(New)* The method of Claim 56, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is selected from the group consisting of a soluble 4-1BB protein, an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L and an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.
59. *(New)* The method of Claim 58, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a human antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

60. *(New)* The method of Claim 58, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a soluble 4-1BB protein, and further wherein the soluble 4-1BB protein is an Fc fusion protein.
61. *(New)* The method of Claim 57, wherein the anthracycline drug is doxorubicin and the 4-1BB antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.
62. *(New)* A method for treating cancer in a subject who has received an anthracycline drug, comprising administering to said subject a 4-1BB antagonist comprising a human antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.